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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of

Takashi Ejiri

for AN APPARATUS FOR VISUALLY
CHECKING THE OPERATIONAL STATUS
OF A STOP VALVE, AND A MANUAL
OPENING APPARATUS FOR A
NORMALLY-CLOSED VALVE

Serial No: 09/815,735

Filed: March 23, 2001

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)
) Examiner: A. Michael Chambers

)
) Group Art Unit: 3753

)
) Our Docket No.: 4415-15

Hartford, Connecticut, December 17, 2002

BOX RESPONSE - NO FEE
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

SIR:

In response to the Office Action of November 18, 2002 raising a requirement for restriction, Applicant hereby elects for further prosecution in this application the invention defined by claims falling within the invention identified as Invention No. I in Paragraph 1 of the detailed Action, said elected invention including present claims 1-15, 22 and 23 drawn to a valve including a position indicator.



This election is made without traverse; and Applicant hereby expressly reserves the right to file a divisional application for the non-elected invention at an acceptable later time.

Applicant believes no charges are involved with this response; however, if Applicant is in error, please charge Deposit Account No. 13-0235 maintained by Applicant's attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

By Donald K. Huber

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